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## HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

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URGING THE PEACE CORPS TO REOPEN THE PEACE CORPS EAST TIMOR  
LOCATION.

1 WHEREAS, the Peace Corps was created in 1961 by United  
2 States Senator John F. Kennedy and trains and arranges for  
3 nearly two hundred thousand volunteers to serve in one hundred  
4 thirty-nine countries; and

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6 WHEREAS, Peace Corps East Timor was the first new Peace  
7 Corps program of the 21st century, and the diplomatic note of  
8 2002 formally establishing the program was signed by Nobel Peace  
9 Laureate and East Timor Minister of Foreign Affairs Jose Ramos-  
10 Horta; and

11  
12 WHEREAS, Peace Corps volunteers worked to meet crucial  
13 community development needs in East Timor, such as  
14 organizational development, health promotion, small-scale  
15 agriculture, water and sanitation, nutrition, environment, human  
16 immunodeficiency virus infection and acquired immunodeficiency  
17 syndrome, and women's and youth development; and

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19 WHEREAS, Peace Corps volunteers were the first  
20 international group to be trained in Tetum, the local language  
21 of East Timor; and

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23 WHEREAS, since Peace Corps East Timor volunteers were  
24 evacuated in 2006 due to civil unrest and government  
25 instability, the country has stabilized and the country is safer  
26 now than it was when the Peace Corps East Timor program was  
27 first established in 2002; and

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29 WHEREAS, the need for Peace Corps volunteers in East Timor  
30 is greater now than ever, as the country remains one of the  
31 poorest in Asia and throughout the world, and forty per cent of  
32 its population survives on less than \$1 per day; and



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2 WHEREAS, nearly half of the country's population is  
3 children under the age of fifteen, many of whose parents are  
4 struggling to support them; and  
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6 WHEREAS, the Peace Corps sent an assessment mission to East  
7 Timor in April 2010, to determine whether to reopen the  
8 country's Peace Corps program; and  
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10 WHEREAS, as a result of the recent assessment mission, the  
11 Peace Corps recommended the reopening of a Peace Corps office in  
12 East Timor, but this recommendation has not yet been acted upon;  
13 and  
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15 WHEREAS, in the summer of 2010 the Peace Corps reopened a  
16 mission in Indonesia, after forty-five years of absence from the  
17 country; and  
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19 WHEREAS, President Obama has called for the expansion of  
20 the Peace Corps throughout the tenure of his administration;  
21 now, therefore,  
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23 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
24 Twenty-seventh Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular  
25 Session of 2013, the Senate concurring, urging the Peace Corps  
26 to reopen the Peace Corps East Timor office as soon as  
27 practicable for the mutual benefit of the Peace Corps volunteers  
28 and the people of East Timor; and  
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30 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
31 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the President of the  
32 United States, the President and Prime Minister of East Timor,  
33 Ambassador of the Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste to the  
34 United States of the Embassy of the Democratic Republic of  
35 Timor-Leste in Washington, D.C., Ambassador of the United States  
36 to the Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste of the United States  
37 Embassy in Timor-Leste, Office of the Administrator and the  
38 Office of the Director of the United States Agency for



1 International Development in Washington, D.C., and Timor-Leste,  
2 respectively, and Acting Director of the Peace Corps.  
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OFFERED BY:

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